

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE I-5LOS ANGELES TIMES  
26 April 1982

## Ex-CIA Chief Seeks Inquiry Into '80 Bid to Rescue Iran Hostages

WASHINGTON (AP)—Retired Navy Adm. Stansfield Turner, who headed the CIA during an attempt to rescue 53 American hostages being held by Iran, has called for an investigation into the failed mission, it was reported Sunday.

"It is now time to appoint a small group to examine how the operation was planned and executed," Turner was quoted in the Washington Post. "The purpose would not be to look backward and cast blame but to look forward and learn the lessons that surely lie buried in" the raid, he said.

However, Gen. David C. Jones, chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff and the mission's principal planner, disagreed, according to the newspaper.

"We're not going to have another situation just like the Iranian situation. . . . We don't need to go back and look at things that happened two years ago," Jones is quoted as telling the Post.

Meanwhile, President Jimmy Carter's former national security adviser, Zbigniew Brzezinski, said Sunday that he disagrees with Turner's proposal.

"I believe there was an inquiry into the mission," Brzezinski said in an interview on Cable News Network's "newsmaker Sunday" program. "I'm not sure what he (Turner) has in mind and what useful

purpose would be served by it. So, on the face of it, I do not see how I could support what he has urged."

The Post reported that Brzezinski asked Carter to send him along on the mission, but Brzezinski disputed that in Sunday's interview.

Turner's call for a probe came on the second anniversary of the April 25, 1980, mission to retrieve the American hostages—a mission that was aborted when two of eight American helicopters broke down and a third encountered an unexpected dust storm. Eight Americans died in a refueling accident at the "Desert One" airfield near Tabas as the mission was preparing to return.

Among the plans for the mission, according to the newspaper, were the following:

—C-130 gunships were to circle Tehran, prepared to attack if snipers, unruly crowds or threatening Iranian planes appeared.

—Electronic warfare planes were to try to counter any Iranian air force interception attempt and to call in planes from two U.S. carriers off Iran to engage Iranian fighters and bomb their runways.

—Backup forces were held at Qena, Egypt, to seize the Manzariyeh air strip near Tehran for the getaway, and 90 soldiers were on call to help the 100 rescuers if needed.